

**Amendments to the Claims:-**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:-

**Listing of Claims:-**

1. (currently amended) A paint roller for applying paint onto a surface comprising:
  - a frustoconically-shaped applicator having:
    - a coupler end;
    - a distal end opposite the coupler end;
    - an external surface between the coupler end and the distal end; and
    - a paint-absorbable member;
  - the paint roller further comprising:
  - a circular integral guard disposed at the coupler end; and
  - a rolling guide disposed at the distal end,  
wherein a resilient means radially disposed about a centre of the rolling guide enables the rolling guide to move eccentrically about an axis of the applicator  
~~wherein the rolling guide coacts with a resilient means to permit rotation about an axis of rotation.~~
2. (currently amended) The paint roller of Claim 1, wherein  
[[the]] a planar cross-section of the coupler end has a different size than ~~is not the same as~~  
the planar cross-section of the distal end.
3. (currently amended) The paint roller of Claim 1, wherein  
the frustoconically-shaped applicator further ~~comprising~~ comprises a chamber defined by  
the coupler end, the distal end and the external surface join[[ing]] the coupler and distal  
ends[[.]], and the chamber further having has a plurality of perforations.
4. (original) The paint roller of Claim 3, wherein  
the chamber is accessible by a closable inlet.
5. (cancelled)
6. (original) The paint roller of Claim 1, wherein  
the coupler end permits rotation of the paint applicator about an axis.
7. (currently amended) The paint roller of Claim 1, wherein

- [[the]] a diameter of the integral guard is predetermined to allow the circular integral guard to contact the surface only when excessive force is used to apply paint.
8. (cancelled)
9. (previously presented) The paint roller of Claim 1, wherein the resilient means is held in place by a retainer.
10. (cancelled)
11. (withdrawn-currently amended) A method of selectively applying paint onto surfaces and surface corners, the method comprising:  
~~using a paint roller comprising a frustoconically shaped applicator having a coupler end, a distal end an external surface between the coupler end and the distal end, and a~~  
~~— paint absorbable member; an [[and]] circular integral guard disposed at the coupler end~~  
~~and a rolling guide disposed at the distal end wherein the rolling guide coacts with a resilient means to permit rotation about an axis of rotation;~~  
~~whereby the integral guard prevents a paint absorbable surface mounted on the applicator from being excessively compressed, thereby preventing an undesirably thick coat of paint from being applied, and the rolling guide permits paint to be precisely applied to surface corners and uneven surfaces.~~  
using the paint roller of Claim 1.
12. (cancelled)
13. (New) The paint roller of Claim 9, wherein the resilient means is sandwiched between the rolling guide and the retainer.
14. (New) The paint roller of Claim 9, wherein the resilient means comprises an elastomeric material and is shaped like a washer-shaped disk.
15. (New) The paint roller of Claim 9, wherein the resilient means comprises a plurality of curved fingers radiating from a wall of a central orifice of the rolling guide and coacting against a retainer wall.
16. (New) The paint roller of Claim 9, wherein the resilient means comprises a plurality of coil springs coacting on a flexible circular wall.